RNA FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

February, 1994

232 Ogden Avenue - Jersey City, N.J. 07307 - (201) 798-0493

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION OR ELECTED OFFICIAL

Plans for New Neighborhood Park UPDATE

The following is a summary of a letter dated Dec. 9th from Councilwoman Nancy Gaynor:

Following our meeting on Saturday, November 13,1993, I met with Robert Cerchio, Chief Architech, concerning Cuneo Park. The following modifications will be presented to me in a final draft.

1) A sitting bench will be added to the south side of the playground on the opposite side of the concrete walk.

2) In the main seating area to the west of the playground the bench will continue in a "C" shape filling in the missing portion.

3) The four planting areas will be mounded to discourage ball playing.

4) Shrubbery will be planted in areas surrounding the playground.

Matters discussed, but will not be pursued for reasons stated.

1) The sidewalk at western end of site will remain as an access point for maintenance equipment.

The followihg items will be pursued if budget allows.

1) 4' fence will be erected around perimeter of the playground. No gates will be installed (cont. on page 2)

MEETING MINUTES

January 11,1994

The date of June 4th as flea market date was established. June 11th rain date. Eanest Quintero voluntered to be flea market chairma (cont. on page 2)

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Most people do not realize that to keep a neighborhood association going requires participation of the members. Part of that participation is in the form of dues. Our annual membership fee is $5 per person. Not a lot of money when you consider that this entitles you to nine issues of our newsletter, and if you live within the boundries, voting priviledges in RNA. Please support your association by paying your dues. Bring your dues to the next meeting, or make your check payable to RNA and mail to 232 Ogden Avenue. We need and appreciate your support The Executive Committee

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

At the 1993 Christ Hospital annual Holiday party held on Thursday, December 9th, for the Jersey City Heights Coalition of Neighborhood & Block Associations. Mayor Bret Schundler presented the Service Recognition Awards for outstanding and dedicated service to the citizens of Jersey City Heights. Congratulations to MARIA TUZZO a 1993 recipient.

SHOVEL AWAY YOUR SNOW!

Property owners are RESPONSIBLE for keeping their sidewalks free of snow and ice. Snow and ice must be REMOVED within eight (8) hours after the snow has stoped falling.

A penalty is provided by ordinance for violation of this law. Failure to comply may result in a fine of $100 minimum to $1,000 maximum

The Jersey City Incinerator Authority. Tel. 432-4645

COMING EVENTS

RNA MEETINGS: THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:15 PM
AT THE HARBOR VIEW HEALTH CARE CENTER

A) FEBRUARY 8th MEETING

1) GUEST SPEAKER, CAPT. GEORGE GEYER
President of Fire Officer's Union of Jersey City

2) HOUSE SPEAKER, MARRIA TUZZO
Will talk about Coalition meeting

3) VOLUNTEERS FOR RNA FLEA MARKET
Ernest Quintero, CHAIRMAN

MY EXPERIENCES Winter Fun

Now that the winter was well on the way, and the holidays were over, my friend and I were all uptight over the cold and snow, but we managed to overcome it nicely. School was back in session and we prayed for heavy snow, so we could be off from school. We got our wish many times and we could make extra money, shoveling snow or be outdoors building forts out of snow and having snowball fights. Some nights we would build fires outdoors and we all brought down potatoes and roasted them outdoors. We used to roll and sled ride and become wet with snow. When it was time to go in, we would run for that old black stove to get warm, open the oven doors and hang our cloth to dry. Sometimes we had hot tea, cocoa and cake, a special receipe prepared with secret ingredients, a little of this, a dash of that and a handful of whatever.

Some of us worked after school in stores, delivering or sweeping or as stock boys, or we worked in the tootsie roll factory. We looked forward to Saturday nights we would either crash a wedding which was held locally for free sandwiches and soda, they didn't seem to care, or we would go to the local movie. If we were realy big on cash, we would go to New York's Paramount Theater for a movie and a big name band. After that we would come home and hit either the town lunch, Schaeffers or Ideal for coffee and whatever.

Sunday nights were spent at one anothers house to listen to records and raid the icebox if we could. this would complete our weekend and we would go back to school Monday morning bragging and very happy.

Jack F. Rea

February-Valentine's Day

Love Is

By Madeline Tuzzo Rea

It is sharing and caring
Giving and forgiving
Loving and being loved
Waking hand in hand
Talking heart to heart
Seeing through each others eyes
Laughing together
Weeping together
Praying together
And always trusting, believing
and thanking God
for each other...
For loved that is shard
Is a beautiful thing
It in riches the soul
And makes the heart sing
Happy Valentine's Day

HOLIDAY PARTY

Once Again, Huge Success

Our Holiday Party, once again was a huge success. Along with our musician friend, Frank Frega, to entertain, we also had the children from #8 School. Grades 3, 4, ELS 3 and bi-lingual along with their teachers, Mrs. Hearn, Mrs. Hursch, Mrs. Navetta and Mrs. Komninos. Their prrincipal, Mr. Trefurt, also joined us.

Not only did the children perform an excellent progam of holiday music, but they brought baskets of treats and hand made cards for the residents. They were a true joy and very well behaved.

Our group, headed by Jack Rea, included Madeline Rea, Valerie Parzych, Claire Gaito, Kathryn Keane, Gert Bogdean, Betty Marsh, Josie Allegretta, Comelle Cesare and Kathy Brennan. Although they couldn't join us, Dolly Quinton made her famous rice pudding and Francis Santora donated cookies.

After the entertainment and sing along, headed by Jack and Herb, we had a raffle. The winners were treated to baskets of goodies, donated by Madelin and Jack Rea. A grate time was had by all.

We would also like to thank the staff of Harborview for all their help. Especially Dione Miller who went out of her way to help us make the party such a joyous one.

Kathy Brennan

A Caroling We Go

It was a small but Enthusiastic group that gathered in front of the gazebo on Sunday December 19th. This was the annual RNA Christmas Caroling event. Many regular "carolers" were unable to come because of illness, so that left "oldtimers" Jack Rea and Maria and new comers Ernie Quintero and Dorothy Rosario to carry the tunes. Actually this was Ernies second year at this event and Dorothy"s first try at caroling.

Our happy "quartet" left the park singing We Wish You A Merry Christmas and made our first stop at the home of Frances Santoro. We were welcomed with praise and cookies. We accepted both gratefully. After taking some cookies for the road we contiued south and our next stop was at the home of Catherine Keens. We wer invited in for some more cookies and a special drink, that Catherine says has been in her family for years.

Warmed and "armed" with our list of songs we once again headed down Ogden singing happily. Our next stop was at Kathy Brennans home where more cookies were offered, along with a libation to warm our insides. When we stop to sing at Mrs Tuzzo"s house she came out to tell us that Ruth and Ted Conrad were waiting for us to sing for them. After singing for a few more people on the 100 block of Ogden we turned back toward the park and made our way to the Conrad residence. When we had finished our songs we were invited in again to partake of something warm for our tummies. (continued on page 4)

PARK UPDATE(continued from page 1.)

Memos have been sent to the proper agencies concerning the following requests:

1) Clean-up Mountain Road; cliff along New York Ave., Ravine Avenue and southern end of Ogden Avenue.

2) Repair fencing along New York Avenue and southern end of Ogden Avenue.

3) Call to PSE&G concerning street lights on Mountain Road.

4) Guardrail to be installed at end of Mountain Road to prevent dumping.

5) Plans for Sgt. Anthony Park delivered to Robin Patrick for review.

I am still working on the status of the A&P store located on Palisade Avenue.

If you have any questions please call me at 547-5474 or 333-3017.

I wish the RNA warmest holiday wishes.

Sincerely Nancy Gaynor

THE NEW CHAIR

Things are looking up around here. (I'm not reffering to all the snow) I'm talking about the attitude of the city workers and the administration to get the job done. If you haven't noticed that the streets are cleaner, traffic lines painted, crosswalk signals are working, Cuneo Park is coming to fruit, community policing is expanding, summonces are more frequently given to property owners for trash violations. Prison Inmates are being effectively used to clean up trash and clearing ice and snow at crosswalks at low cost to the city.

The Police are doing a marvelous job at reducing crime and increasing arrest rate. I hear that the different city departments have a new attitude, so have our council people in acting on our concerns.

The Mayor has a innovative and breakthrough style of governing and getting those ideas implamented. The days of bussness as usual are changing in city government. The voters have spoken in the last two elections indicating that they want a change.

I have the feeling that the majority of the public feel that it's time to get the city government off it's loural and solve our concerns once and for all.

Ernest Quintero, Chair

Jersey City Museum

Artist explore living with the loss under the Yoke of Colonialism

There are similar truths to be leared from images as disparate as those of buffaloes falling off a cliff and 1,000 arranged bars of Ivory soap in an exhibition on view December 8, 1993 through February 19, 1994, at the Jersey City Museum.

Entitled States of Loss: Migration, Displacement, Colonialism and Power. The exhibition explores from a vairty of viewpoints how it feels to (continued on page 4)

CONRAD,S CORNER

Selling J.C. Down the River

Letter to the Editor of Jersey Journal

All of hudson County Boulevard was declared a historic site by Mayor Hague. At the same time the Palisades along the waterfront were declared historic sites by the Rockefellers and Harrimans, all the way up to West Point.

Mayor Hague gave each town along the waterfront a piece of the land separately to be preserved and to protect the Palisades along the waterfront. Later on the County sold some of its own land to developers which was in violation of the original save the Palisades agreement and high rise apartments began to appear on County parkland along the waterfront as surplus land.

These projects like the Doric in Union City, Sprung up over night before the local community was aware of what was happening. County parkland was sold down the river to out of town developers before the general public was aware of what was really happening. Because most of this land was all county property much of it became sweetheart deals without paying taxes because many records were lost with sloppy bookkeeping. (continued on page 4)

MEETING MINUTES (Continued from page 1)

We spent considerable time discussing the annual Christmas party at the Harbor View for the residents. Of major concern was the large turn out by the #8 school. The timing difficulty with the employee party and communication with Harbor View Administration.

Also the new social club on the corner of Ogden Avenue and Franklin Street.

Christ Hospital meeting on the new Finance Building , moved to Feb 1.

RNA Member Suggestion for Park Plan

Proposed Park layout for Cuneo Place, submitted by Camille Cesari December 1993 SK-4

Park features;

1) Entry Space - Entry gate located on Ogden Avenue. Objective to provide a physical transition space between street and park in the form of a landscaped seating area.

2) Formal Gardens - Consists of two formal planting beds, seating, walkways and border plantings. Objective to serve as a transition space between entry area playground. Affords the neighborhood the opportunity to plant its own garden. The formal gardens offers a passive area for park users, seating is integrated throughout. Border planting should be interesting and varied, providing year round interest.

(continued on page 4)

Jersey City Museum (continued from page 3)

live (literally and figuratively) in a colonialized state, in which a conquering people exploits and those subjected experience deprivation: loss of country, sence of the past, space and personal identity.

Featured are paintings, sculptures, videos, photographs, mixed media and installations by 10 ethnically varied artists. They examine the past and present life experiences of Native Americans, African Americans, Latin Americans, and Gays that range from melancholy and shocking to wryly humorous.

CONRAD'S CORNER (continued from page 3)

Jack Drago and a few of us were able to save some land such as a large section of Hudson County Park in Jersey City destined to become #28 School which our county polititcians were going to sell down the river. It's been fun and games for our politicians, how much longer are we going to let them get away with it?

Is our city jail next for some out of towner to reap a nice profit for our county freeholders again? Nobody will be able to check how much graft was made on the deal because an out of state contractor has already been selected.

Just when we have been told that there is no need for for county government in Hudson County except for the county courts because there is no longer any empty land in the county not even along the Hudson Boulevard which transverses every city in the county which can easly take care of its own share of the Boulevard. Since the state government already takes care of most of the court cases why are we duplicating our city government with their own courts?

If every town takes care of its section of the Hudson County Boulevard we will no longer need the county government to take care of it, it's that simple. All we really need is the county and state government to take care of the courts.

Since the main jail is no longer on Newark Avenue we can take some of the bars of the old jail and make the rest a handsome office building at no great expense and eliminate the Panepinto Building to save more money and let's have any work done in the county from now on by Hudson County contrac tors so we will be able to check how much graft out of town contractors have been able to get away with. County government has been too much of a good thing for grafting politicions. We can no longer afford it with the taxes the homeowners of Hudson County have to pay now.

P.S. Expansion plan won't affect Panepinto's lease. But what about affordable housing for tenants by the county, shouldn't the City take care of that?

Theodore Conrad

Park Plan Suggestion (continued from page 3)

3) Playground - Includews waterspray area, play equipment, seating and border planting. Objective, to provide the neighborhood with a multi-use play area. The water spray is important and necessary feature on hot summer days. Also, positioned where it acts as a focal point (similiar to a fountain) and animates the space in a playful and delightful way. Play equipment serving the needs of the neighborhood's children should be installed.

Park Concept - To provide park users with both active and passive areas and with adequate seating. The park spaces should be clearly defined yet well integrated with one another so that in combination the result is one of special sequence.

ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

Once again RNA members came through for those in need. This year cash donations out weighted actual food donations. We were able to send a dozen full grocery bags of non perishable food to the Salvation Army. We also sent three department store bags of toys along with the food. Sincere thanks to all who gave to this seasonal Compaign.

The Executive Committee

A Caroling We Go (continued from page 2)

This was the most fun we'd had singing carols in a few years.

It must have been the season and the singing. Or just possibly we were so warmed by the refreshments we had received that the singing and season some how seemed greater. What ever the reason, it was a fun night spent with each other and several of our neighbors, enjoying the comradderie of the moment.

So, what date is caroling for Christmas 1994?!!!!

Maria E. Tuzzo

December Meeting Minutes

December 14, 1993

Mike Giordano, a representative of the U.S.Postal Service was in attendance to discuss any problems or concerns. Very few were voiced. He invited anyone with a complaint or comment to call, 915-7079.

Officer Lanceloti was also in attendance. He discussed holiday crime and holiday safty tips. The Question of placing additionel lighting on Palisades Avenue was brought up by one RNA member. While Officer Lancelotti agreed that this is a problem that needs to be addressed, He suggested that perhaps a more immediate need for lighting is on the streets (ie Mountain Rd., Holland St.) leading up to Ogden Avenue from Patterson Plank Road. These roads he refers to as "The Gateways to Crime". Public Service will come in and do a survey free of charg (continued on page 5)

December Minutes (continued from page 5)

Also a new police class will be graduating on January 15th, meaning there will be 6 more community officers in the North District. The morale in the North District has increased dramatically under the leadership of Captain Kane.

A motion was made to voye on the opening and closing of Janet Moore Park by Christ Hospital. Vote was in favor of having the hospital handle it. THe plan is to open the gates no later than 9 am and close by 10 pm.

The December meeting ended with the annual RNA Christmas Party with loads of good food and holiday cheer.

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NEWS LETTER

RNA is soliciting material for our newsletter. We are interested in anything you as our readers are interested in. Would you like to thank someome? Maybe you would like to complain about something. How about suggestions to help improve our neighborhood or City?

There's always a recipe, whether it is a family heirloom or something you just found out about. Creative writing is always wanted - whether it is a poam, a short story or memory about a local event or person.

I, Russell Pratt will be acting Editor of RNA Newsletter. I hope to be able to fit it in to my work schedule. I would appreciate all material as soon as possible. Because I am a freelance artist, my work schedule varies. Any submitions given last few days before printing deadline, may not make that month issue.

Dead line for Marches Newsletter articals is, Monday February 21st. Drop off contributions in mail box at 171 Ogden Anenue. Please mark envelope "RNA Newsletter".

Many thanks to Mr. Vito Brunetti for the great work he has done with the newsletter and I hope I can do as fine a job

Russell Pratt, Editor

NEWSLETTER STAFF

EDITORS: Vito Brunetti, Russell Pratt
CONTRIBUTORS: Ted Conrad, Suzanne Maroon, Ernest Quintero, Madeline Tuzzo Rea, Kathy Brennen, Camille Cesari, Maria E. Tuzzo, Jack Rea, Russell Pratt.
CIRCULATION: Mrs. Tuzzo, Jack Rea
ART WORK: Raquel Sweeney, Russell Pratt

COMMUNITY POLICING IS A PARTERSHIP

Communty policeperson Officer Andrew Lancelotti attends RNA monthly meetings to find out about any local problems or concerns of the neighborhood. He encourages all citizens to talk to him either during the public portion of the meeting, or if ne cessary, in private.

In additoin, if there is a more immed iate problem,he can be reached on duty by calling the north district desk at547-5350 or 5359. Leave message for him and he will return the call as soon as possible.

New Weekend Service to Newport Centre Mall On NJ TRANSIT's #86

Beginning Saturday, January 8, the #86 bus will operate Saturdays and Sundays to Newport Centre Mall Jersey City.

Saturday will operate every 30 minutes from 8.20 AM to 10.30 PM .

Employees at Newport Centre Mall can now get to work on weekends for any shift when the mall is open.

Shoppers and moviegoers in Hudson County can now enjoy the added convenience of getting to Newport Centre Mall on a daily basis.

For more information about the new service, pick a copy of the new #86 timetable. Its available on board your bus, or by calling New Jersey Transit at:
1-800-772-2222 in New Jersey
1-201-762-5100 out of state.

WHEELS
Expanded Transportation Services

The service improvements to this route are brought to you as part of NJ TRANSIT's WHEELS Expanded Transportation Services Program.

COME TO OUR NEXT RNA MEETING ON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH at 7:15 PM

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

to all RNA lovers,
husbands and wives
and just good old
friends!

Happy
Valentine's
Day

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
232 OGDEN AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07307

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U.S. POSTAGE
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RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RNA

Ernest Quintero
Chairperson

Russell Pratt
Vice-chairperson

Suzanne Maroon
Secretary

Jack Rea
Treasurer

Marie Tuzzo
Sgt. at Arms

Theodore Conrad
Historical Advisor

COMMITTEES:

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

ENVIRONMENT

FLEA MARKET

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY MEETING

Elections

The nominations for Officers in RNA will take place at the February 8th meeting They will remain open until the March 8th meeting, at which time the nominations will be closed and the vote taken. Please attend the February meeting so that we may have maximum participation of our membership. Also make sure your dues are paid so you are eligible to vote in the election.